Practitioner's Docket No.: 210 211

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Mark Alexander Hill et al.

March 6, 2003

Ser. No.: 09/679,853

Art Unit: 2125

Filed:

October 5, 2000

Examiner: Kidest Bahta

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONNECTING TO HVAC DEVICE

Box Non-Fee Amendment **Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, DC 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail addressed to Box Non-Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on March 6, 2003.

Susanne C. Aregano

## **AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 24, 2002, Applicants' wish to amend the subject patent application as follows: RECEIVED

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 4, 5, 15 and 16

Please add claims 17 and 18

MAR 1 3 2003

**Technology Center 2100** 

Please amend claims 1, 6, 12-14 as follows:

(Amended) A system for remotely monitoring and controlling at least 1. one HVAC device comprising:

a server with bi-directional communications access to an entry device and at least one HVAC device and containing stored information relating to the status of said at least one HVAC device and further containing stored information that includes a password and a user name that are associated with said at least one HVAC device which must be properly identified before stored status information can be accessed by the entry device;

querying means in said server for querying said at least one HVAC device for status information for storage in said server; and

means for sending said status information to said entry device when the message from said entry device includes a recognized password and user name associated with said at least one HVAC device